



Environmental Science and Services Division

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Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SERVICES DIVISION

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COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

Environmental Assistance Center

Compliance Assistance

800-662-9278

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Brownfield Redevelopment Grants and Loans
517-373-9540

Clean Michigan Initiative Nonpoint Source
Pollution Control Grants

Clean Water Act, Section 319 Grants
517-373-2037

Clean Water State Revolving Fund
Drinking Water Revolving Fund
Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund
517-373-2161

Coastal Zone Management Grants
517-335-3168

Regional and Community P2 Grants
231-775-3960 ext. 6322

Small Business P2 Loan Program
517-373-0604

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Clean Corporate Citizen (C3) Program
517-241-7969

Environmental Audit Privilege & Immunity
517-373-1323

Neighborhood Environmental Program (NEP)
989-686-8025 ext. 8390

LABORATORY SERVICES

517-335-9800

POLLUTION PREVENTION (P2)

General Information • 800-662-9278

- Agriculture, 517-930-3170
- Annual Wastewater Reporting (AWR)
517-373-8481
- Department of Defense, 517-373-3109
- Energy Efficiency, 517-373-3109
- Environmentally Preferred Purchasing
517-373-0604
- Field Operations, 231-775-3960 ext. 6322
- Hospitals for a Healthy Environment
517-335-0383
- Marina Pollution Prevention, 517-241-5719
- Mercury P2, 517-373-0939
- MI Business P2 Partnership (MBP3)
517-241-5719
- MI Great Printers Project, 517-373-0604
- MI Pulp & Paper Project, 517-373-0604
- Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste
517-373-1322
- Retired Engineer Technical Assistance
Program, 517-241-8176
- SARA Title III, 517-373-8481
- Turfgrass Pollution Prevention
517-241-5719

TRAINING

Conferences and Workshops

517-335-3153

Water & Wastewater Operator Training &
Certification

517-373-4755 (wastewater)

517-241-7199 (water)

The [Environmental Science and Services Division \(ESSD\)](#) oversees a number of outreach and assistance services leading to the improvement in environmental quality, with an emphasis on pollution prevention. The ESSD provides services related to all environmental programs administered by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Compliance Assistance

Staff knowledgeable of the major environmental protection programs are available to help the regulated community and the general public with direct, one-on-one assistance to facilitate the understanding and timely compliance with environmental regulations. Compliance assistance is available by telephone; Email; on-line; and through workshops, seminars, and publications. Expertise is offered in programs including air quality, drinking water and environmental health, land and water management, oil and gas, site clean-ups, storage tanks, waste management, and water quality.

Environmental Assistance

The ESSD publishes the [ESSD Bulletin](#), which provides brief updates on topics of environmental interest, and the [DEQ Calendar](#), which lists upcoming permit and other environmental decisions; proposed settlements of contested cases; administrative rules promulgation; announcements; public meetings and hearings; permitting contacts; and conferences, workshops, and training programs.

[Environmental Assistance Center \(EAC\)](#). The EAC offers a toll-free telephone number that provides access to fast, direct referral assistance on all DEQ programs. For answers to environmental questions, to request a list of publications, or to be placed on the [DEQ Calendar](#) mailing list, call the EAC at **800-662-9278**.

Financial Assistance

[Brownfield Redevelopment Grants and Loans](#). This program includes CMI funding to provide financial assistance to local units of government. The program is targeted to address contaminated or potentially contaminated properties and prepare them for reuse. The redevelopment of old, abandoned, or underutilized properties reduces urban sprawl and promotes SMART growth and land use planning. Utilization of existing infrastructure (sewer, water, electricity), roads, public transportation, and a local work force is encouraged through this grant and loan program. Eligible activities include site assessment, remediation, the preparation of Baseline Environmental Assessments, and Due Care activities.

[Clean Michigan Initiative \(CMI\) Nonpoint Source \(NPS\) Pollution Control Grants](#). These grants fund the implementation of structural and vegetative best management practices in the DEQ-approved watershed management plans. Eligible entities are local units of government and non-profit organizations. The Request for Proposals is usually issued in conjunction with the Clean Water Act, Section 319 Grants.

[Clean Water Act, Section 319 Grants](#). Section 319 grants provide financing for the development of watershed management plans by local units of government or nonprofit organizations. Section 319 grants also provide funding for watershed-based educational and outreach activities and implementation of nonpoint source pollution control projects identified in approved watershed management plans.

[Clean Water State Revolving Fund \(SRF\)](#). Low-interest loans are available to qualified municipalities for financing wastewater treatment plants, collection systems, correction of combined sewer overflow, and nonpoint source pollution control projects. Staff provide guidance through the planning, design, finance, and construction of these projects.

[Coastal Zone Management Grants](#). The Coastal Zone Management Program offers funding opportunities for a variety of projects that enhance public access, protect sensitive resources and habitat, redevelop urban waterfronts and preserve historic coastal features. Funding is also available for coastal research and inventories and projects that improve the capacity of state and local governments to manage and protect coastal resources.

[Community Pollution Prevention Grants](#). Grant funds are available to local government and health departments to support community-based pollution prevention.

[Drinking Water Revolving Fund \(DWRF\)](#). The DWRF is similar to the SRF. Low-interest loans are available to qualified water suppliers for financing water supply systems such as wells, treatment plants, storage facilities, transmission lines, and pumping facilities.

[Small Business Pollution Prevention Loan Program](#). This loan program provides low-interest loans of up to \$400,000 at interest rates of 5 percent or less to small businesses of 500 employees or less. Projects that eliminate or minimize the generation of waste through source reduction, recycling, or energy or water conservation are considered for loan funding under this program.

[Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund \(SWQIF\)](#). This fund is modeled after the SRF and provides low-interest loan financing for communities seeking assistance for the on-site upgrade/replacement of failing septic systems, or for projects to remove groundwater or storm water from sewer leads.

DEQ Internet Home Page:
www.michigan.gov/deqessd

Environmental Assistance Center:
800-662-9278

Pollution Emergencies:
800-292-4706

Incentive Programs

Clean Corporate Citizen (C3) and Neighborhood Environmental Program (NEP). The C3 Program provides the opportunity for regulated establishments that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental stewardship and a strong environmental ethic to be recognized as clean corporate citizens. Facilities that voluntarily participate in this program and meet the criteria to become C3s receive public recognition and are entitled to certain regulatory benefits. The NEP recognizes facilities and their community partners that have worked together to improve the environment in their community by implementing ongoing environmental projects.

Environmental Audit Privilege and Immunity. The Environmental Audit Privilege and Immunity Law provides incentives for businesses and other regulated entities to perform environmental self-audits and promptly report and correct violations. Regulated parties that make voluntary disclosures as specified in the law may be entitled to receive limited immunity from administrative penalties and have the self-audit reports generated during the audit classified as confidential documents.

Laboratory Services

A variety of laboratory services are provided within this section to support compliance and regulatory programs, local county health departments, the public, and other state and federal agencies. These services assist various programs for the investigation of public health issues, identification and clean up of environmentally contaminated sites, and ensuring data quality for scientific-based decisions.

Analytical Program. Analytical laboratory testing is provided to a variety of environmental programs throughout the state including drinking water, bathing beaches, public swimming pools, air quality, state clean-up activities, hazardous waste management, land and water management, geological survey, law, and many others. These services include physical, chemical, and microbiological testing. The laboratory is a critical element for emergency response to catastrophic and terrorist events.

Certification and Recognition Program. Two programs are in operation to ensure data quality from laboratories. Using EPA and state standards, the Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Program certifies all laboratories performing tests on drinking water samples within the state. The voluntary Laboratory Data Recognition Program identifies private environmental laboratories that are considered qualified to generate analytical data for submission to the department.

Pollution Prevention (P2)

Pollution prevention in Michigan is a voluntary, multi-media program directed at businesses, institutions, and communities. Its focus is to provide information and technical assistance on practical approaches that eliminate or reduce the generation of waste at its source or recycle waste that cannot be eliminated. This includes working with industry and academia to encourage the design, purchase, and use of less toxic chemicals.

Annual Wastewater Reporting (AWR). Annual Wastewater Reporting applies to every person doing business within the state who either discharges wastewater to the waters of the state or who discharges wastewater other than sanitary sewage to a sewer system. Impacted persons are required to file wastewater reports annually to the DEQ.

P2 Field Operations. The field staff are located in the Cadillac, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Saginaw Bay, and Southeast Michigan [district offices](#) to offer environmental assistance at the local level. Staff meet with local governments, businesses, environmental organizations, and other DEQ staff to promote pollution prevention and the programs offered by ESSD.

Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP). Retired engineers and other retired professionals are available through the RETAP Program to provide on-site assessments to identify opportunities for pollution prevention and energy efficiency improvements. Assessments are confidential, free of charge, and non-regulatory. RETAP is available to Michigan businesses with less than 500 employees, including agribusinesses, and to institutions.

RETAP Internship Program. The RETAP Internship Program is a partnership between industry, Michigan universities, and the state to provide technical assistance to P2 partnership facilities by placing engineering interns to help implement P2 and energy efficiency improvements identified by assessments conducted under the RETAP program.

SARA Title III. SARA Title III, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, provides emergency responders and the public with information on hazardous and toxic substances stored, used, and released in their community. Program staff assist facilities with reporting requirements under this federal act that include the Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (TRI), Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory (Tier Two), Emergency Planning Notification for facilities that have extremely hazardous substances on site, and emergency release notification.

Training

Conferences and Workshops. Educational opportunities on regulatory topics and environmental performance programs are provided through division workshops, seminars, and conferences in partnership with businesses, trade associations, and other groups. These events offer information on current regulatory requirements, pollution prevention, compliance assistance, new technologies, and other areas of interest. The division participates in various trade shows and events by sponsoring an ESSD display booth staffed with professionals and furnished with relevant publications.

Water and Wastewater Operator Training and Certification. Staff provide wastewater and drinking water system operators with critical formal training in treatment process control and laboratory analyses. On-site technical assistance is provided on request to wastewater treatment personnel on operation, maintenance, and laboratory analyses. Examination and certification of treatment and distribution personnel are also conducted.